

MR. Secretary:

My name is Keith Tolles and I am a Sorghum, Wheat, and Soybean producer in Cowley County. Thank you for taking the time to meet with local agriculture producers in our state about the farm bill.

The current farm bill and its immediate predecessor have slowed the economic decline in production agriculture and have helped to stabilize the rural economies in many areas. Now is not the time to abandon the efforts to keep production agriculture viable with wholesale cuts to the programs in place.

Through their hard work, monetary risk, and expertise ag producers create a lot of wealth for this country, it would be poor policy to kill this economic engine by slashing at the meager bottom line of producers.

The best way to keep production agriculture healthy in my opinion is with sound trade deals that don't treat ag products as bartering chips to gain concessions in other areas of the trade deal. It seems that agriculture is always the last consideration and the first to give concessions. We must have a fair and equitable hearing in all trade negotiations.

I would also like to commend the FSA offices in their diligent and efficient administration of farm programs, without their help this maize of bureaucratic paper work would be untenable. I feel it would be a mistake to make drastic cuts in the local offices and personnel.

Again thank you for coming I hope you enjoy your visit.

Keith Tolles
24933 51st. Road
Arkansas City, KS 67005

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Comments from
Farm Bill Forum
Kansas

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